

Michigan

Office of the Auditor General

REPORT SUMMARY

Performance Audit

Report Number: 76-146-02

Environmental Response and Redevelopment Programs Department of Environmental Quality

Released: April 2005

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was created by Executive Order No. 1995-18, which also transferred environmental regulatory programs to DEQ from the Department of Natural Resources. DEQ's mission is to protect and enhance Michigan's environment and public health. The environmental response and redevelopment programs determine, evaluate, and control risk to the environment and the health, safety, and welfare of Michigan's citizens by carrying out cleanup or other response activities at sites of environmental contamination.

Audit Objective:

To assess DEQ's effectiveness in identifying, assessing, and addressing environmental contamination.

Audit Conclusion:

DEQ was generally effective in identifying, assessing, and addressing environmental contamination. Our report does not include any reportable conditions related to this audit objective.

Audit Objective:

To assess DEQ's effectiveness in identifying potentially responsible parties and recovering costs related to response activity.

Audit Conclusion:

DEQ had limited effectiveness in identifying potentially responsible parties and recovering costs related to response activity.

Reportable Condition:

DEQ needs to improve the effectiveness and appropriateness of its recovery of State funds expended for response activities at facilities (Finding 1).

Audit Objective:

To assess DEQ's effectiveness in facilitating the redevelopment of contaminated sites.

Audit Conclusion:

DEQ was generally effective in facilitating the redevelopment of contaminated sites funded by sources other than the Clean Michigan Initiative. Our report does not include any reportable conditions related to this audit objective.

Agency Response:

Our audit report includes 1 finding and 1 corresponding recommendation. DEQ responded that it partially agreed with the recommendation.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

A copy of the full report can be obtained by calling 517.334.8050 or by visiting our Web site at: http://audgen.michigan.gov



Michigan Office of the Auditor General 201 N. Washington Square Lansing, Michigan 48913

> Thomas H. McTavish, C.P.A. Auditor General

Scott M. Strong, C.P.A., C.I.A.
Deputy Auditor General